GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1075
ANSWERED ON:23.10.2008
AWARDING OF RETAIL OUTLET DEALERSHIPS BY OIL PSUS
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a): whether it is true that the result of interviews conducted by oil PSUs for the award of Retail Outlet (R.O.) dealership were/are to be declared within 24 hours in case there is no complaint against the procedure etc.;

(b): if so, the details thereof;

(c): whether the oil PSUs are/were authorized to stop the declaration of merit panels once the same were/are prepared and LOIs are/were to be issued as per these merit panels in case there is no specific complaint against the selection procedures;

(d): if so, the reasons for not declaring the merit panels of 13 land owners interviewed for the award of dealership during the period of October 22,2002 to February 2003 by IBP Company Limited;and

(e): the corrective steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (e): The merit panels of the 13 landowners interviewed by the erstwhile IBP Company (IBP),now merged with Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC),were not declared by IBP as requisite statutory approvals for commissioning of Retail Outlets (ROs) on the selected locations were not obtained before Ministry issued advice to the company in February,2003 to put a ban on commissioning of Retail Outlet (RO) dealership allotted to landowners without the route of open advertisement.Further,during the period when the 13 landowners were interviewed,the company did not have any guidelines that stipulated the timeframe for declaration of merit panel/results.

Subsequently,w.e.f 18.9.2003 in case of IOC and 7.10.2003 in case of IBP,it was made mandatory to display the names of the first three candidates after completion of interviews.The policy has been made more transparent w.e.f 1.11.2004 when it was made mandatory to display the result along with detailed mark-sheets of all candidates who had appeared in the interviews,except in cases where the difference of marks between the first and second candidate is less than 5% of the marks scored by the second candidate,and in cases where the difference of marks scored by the first candidate and the minimum qualifying marks is less than 5%.In such cases,matter is referred to Screening Committee for review.